

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A communications device comprising:
2 a logging module, wherein
3 the logging module is configured to communicate information regarding a
4 change to a configuration of a subsystem of the communications
5 device.

- 1 2. The communications device of claim 1, wherein
2 the communications device further comprises the subsystem; and
3 the logging module is coupled to the subsystem.

- 1 3. The communications device of claim 2, wherein
2 the logging module is further configured to detect the change.

- 1 4. The communications device of claim 3, wherein
2 the logging module is further configured to broadcast a data packet using a logging
3 module network address and a logging module communications protocol.

- 1 5. The communications device of claim 4, wherein
2 the logging module is further configured to restrict a change to a configuration of the
3 logging module by the subsystem.

- 1 6. The communications device of claim 4, wherein
2 the logging module is further configured to communicate the change to the
3 configuration of the subsystem by broadcasting the data packet, wherein the
4 data packet indicates the change to the configuration of the subsystem.

- 1 7. The communications device of claim 6, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to broadcast the change to the configuration of the
3 subsystem to at least one security monitor coupled to the subsystem via a
4 network.

1 8. The communications device of claim 7, wherein
2 the security monitor is configured to set the communications device to an
3 “untrustworthy” status in response to receiving the change to the configuration
4 of the subsystem.

1 9. The communications device of claim 8, wherein
2 the security monitor is configured to disconnect the communications device from the
3 network in response to the communications device being set to the
4 “untrustworthy” status.

1 10. The communications device of claim 4, wherein
2 the logging module is further configured to restrict the subsystem from broadcasting
3 using the logging module network address and the logging module
4 communications protocol.

1 11. The communications device of claim 4, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to broadcast a series of data packets,
3 each of the data packets comprises an index number, and
4 each of the index numbers is taken from a sequence of numbers.

1 12. The communications device of claim 4, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to communicate the change to the configuration of
3 the subsystem when a condition is satisfied.

1 13. The communications device of claim 12, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to communicate the change to the configuration of
3 the subsystem when an amount of the change is above a certain threshold.

1 14. The communications device of claim 12, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to communicate the change to the configuration of
3 the subsystem when a criticality of the change is above a certain threshold.

1 15. The communications device of claim 12, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to communicate the change to the configuration of
3 the subsystem periodically.

1 16. The communications device of claim 3, wherein
2 the subsystem is a communications interface.

1 17. The communications device of claim 16, wherein
2 the logging module is further configured to restrict a change to a configuration of the
3 logging module by the communications interface.

1 18. The communications device of claim 16, wherein
2 the logging module is further configured to broadcast using the communications
3 interface using a logging module network address and a logging module
4 communications protocol.

1 19. The communications device of claim 18, wherein
2 the logging module is further configured to restrict a change to a configuration of the
3 logging module by the communications interface.

1 20. The communications device of claim 18, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to communicate the change to the configuration of
3 the communications interface by broadcasting the change to the configuration
4 of the communications interface.

1 21. The communications device of claim 20, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to broadcast the change to the configuration of the
3 communications interface to at least one security monitor coupled to the
4 communications interface via a network.

1 22. The communications device of claim 21, wherein
2 the security monitor is configured to set the communications device to an
3 “untrustworthy” status in response to receiving the change to the configuration
4 of the communications interface.

1 23. The communications device of claim 22, wherein
2 the security monitor is configured to disconnect the communications device from the
3 network in response to the communications device being set to the
4 “untrustworthy” status.

1 24. The communications device of claim 18, wherein
2 the logging module is further configured to restrict the communications interface from
3 broadcasting using the logging module network address and the logging
4 module communications protocol.

1 25. The communications device of claim 24, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to restrict the communications interface from
3 broadcasting a change to the configuration of the communications interface
4 using the logging module network address and the logging module
5 communications protocol.

1 26. The communications device of claim 18, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to broadcast using a series of data packets,
3 each of the data packets comprises an index number, and
4 each of the index numbers is taken from a sequence of numbers.

1 27. The communications device of claim 18, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to communicate the change to the configuration of
3 the communications interface when a condition is satisfied.

1 28. The communications device of claim 27, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to communicate the change to the configuration of
3 the communications interface when an amount of the change is above a certain
4 threshold.

1 29. The communications device of claim 27, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to communicate the change to the configuration of
3 the communications interface when a criticality of the change is above a
4 certain threshold.

1 30. The communications device of claim 27, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to communicate the change to the configuration of
3 the communications interface periodically.

1 31. The communications device of claim 3, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to communicate the change to the configuration of
3 the subsystem by broadcasting the change to the configuration of the
4 subsystem.

1 32. The communications device of claim 31, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to broadcast the change to the configuration of the
3 subsystem to at least one security monitor coupled to the subsystem via a
4 network.

1 33. The communications device of claim 32, wherein
2 the security monitor is configured to set the communications device to an
3 “untrustworthy” status in response to receiving the change to the configuration
4 of the subsystem.

1 34. The communications device of claim 33, wherein
2 the security monitor is configured to disconnect the communications device from the
3 network in response to the communications device being set to the
4 “untrustworthy” status.

1 35. The communications device of claim 3, wherein
2 the logging module is further configured to broadcast the change to a security monitor.

1 36. The communications device of claim 35, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to communicate the change when a condition is
3 satisfied.

1 37. The communications device of claim 36, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to communicate the change when an amount of the
3 change is above a certain threshold.

1 38. The communications device of claim 36, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to communicate the change when a criticality of the
3 change is above a certain threshold.

1 39. The communications device of claim 36, wherein
2 the logging module is configured to communicate the change periodically.

1 40. The communications device of claim 36, wherein
2 the subsystem is a communications interface.

1 41. A method comprising:
2 detecting a change in a configuration of a subsystem of a communications device; and
3 communicating information regarding the change.

1 42. The method of claim 41, further comprising:
2 determining the configuration.

1 43. The method of claim 42, wherein
2 the information comprises an indication of an occurrence of the change.

1 44. The method of claim 42, wherein
2 the information comprises a change made to the configuration.

1 45. The method of claim 42, further comprising:
2 executing a process in a logging module of the communications device, wherein the
3 logging process performs the detecting the change and the communicating
4 information regarding the change.

1 46. The method of claim 45, wherein
2 the subsystem is a communications interface, and
3 the executing the process in the logging module comprises executing a logging
4 process.

1 47. The method of claim 46, wherein the executing a logging process comprises:
2 executing a logging process in the logging module of the communications device
3 according to a configuration of the logging module.

1 48. The method of claim 46, wherein the communicating comprises:
2 broadcasting the information.

1 49. The method of claim 48, wherein the broadcasting is performed using the
2 communications interface.

1 50. The method of claim 49, wherein the broadcasting is performed using:
2 a logging module network address, and
3 a logging module communications protocol.

1 51. The method of claim 49, wherein the broadcasting comprises:
2 broadcasting the information to a security monitoring process executing on a security
3 monitor coupled to the communications interface via a network.

1 52. The method of claim 51, wherein the security monitoring process comprises:
2 setting the communications device to an “untrustworthy” status in response to
3 receiving the change to the configuration of the communications interface.

1 53. The method of claim 52, wherein the security monitoring process comprises:
2 disconnecting the communications device from the network in response to the
3 communications device being set to the “untrustworthy” status.

1 54. The method of claim 48, wherein the broadcasting comprises:
2 sending a series of data packets, wherein
3 each of the data packets comprises an index number and
4 each of the index numbers is taken from a sequence of numbers.

1 55. The method of claim 48, wherein the communicating comprises:
2 indicating the change to the configuration of the communications interface when a
3 condition is satisfied.

1 56. The method of claim 55, wherein the communicating comprises:
2 indicating the change to the configuration of the communications interface when an
3 amount of the change is above a certain threshold.

1 57. The method of claim 55, wherein the communicating comprises:
2 indicating the change to the configuration of the communications interface when a
3 criticality of the change is above a certain threshold.

1 58. The method of claim 55, wherein the communicating is performed
2 periodically.

1 59. The method of claim 46, further comprising:
2 executing at least one process in the subsystem according to the configuration of the
3 subsystem.

1 60. The method of claim 59, wherein the executing the at least one process in the
2 communications interface comprises:
3 executing a communications process.

1 61. The method of claim 60, wherein the executing the logging process further
2 comprises:
3 restricting a change to a configuration of the logging module by the communications
4 process.

1 62. The method of claim 60, wherein the executing the logging process further
2 comprises:
3 broadcasting through the communications interface using a logging module network
4 address and a logging module communications protocol.

1 63. The method of claim 62, wherein the executing the logging process further
2 comprises:
3 restricting a change to a configuration of the logging module by the communications
4 process.

1 64. The method of claim 62, wherein the executing the logging process further
2 comprises:
3 restricting the communications process from broadcasting using the logging module
4 network address and the logging module communications protocol.

1 65. The method of claim 64, wherein the restricting comprises:
2 restricting the communications interface from broadcasting a change to the
3 configuration of the communications interface using the logging module
4 network address and the logging module communications protocol.

1 66. The method of claim 42, wherein the communicating comprises:
2 broadcasting the information.

1 67. The method of claim 66, wherein the broadcasting is performed using the
2 subsystem.

1 68. The method of claim 67, wherein the broadcasting is performed using:
2 a logging module network address, and
3 a logging module communications protocol.

1 69. The method of claim 68, wherein the broadcasting comprises:
2 broadcasting the change to the configuration of the subsystem to a security monitoring
3 process executing on a security monitor coupled to the communications device
4 via a network.

1 70. The method of claim 69, wherein the security monitoring process comprises:
2 setting the communications device to an "untrustworthy" status in response to
3 receiving the change to the configuration of the subsystem.

1 71. The method of claim 69, wherein the security monitoring process comprises:
2 disconnecting the communications device from the network in response to the
3 communications device being set to the "untrustworthy" status.

1 72. The method of claim 66, wherein the communicating comprises:
2 indicating the change to the configuration of the subsystem when a condition is
3 satisfied.

1 73. The method of claim 72 wherein the communicating is performed periodically.

1 74. A communications device comprising:
2 a subsystem;
3 a processor, coupled to the subsystem;
4 computer readable medium coupled to the processor; and
5 computer code, encoded in the computer readable medium, configured to cause the
6 processor to:
7 detect a change in a configuration of the subsystem; and

8 communicate information regarding the change.

1 75. The communications device of claim 74, wherein the computer code is further
2 configured to cause the processor to:
3 determine the configuration.

1 76. The communications device of claim 75, wherein the computer code
2 configured to cause the processor to communicate the information regarding the change is
3 further configured to cause the processor to:
4 broadcast the information.

1 77. The communications device of claim 76, wherein the computer code
2 configured to cause the processor to communicate the information regarding the change is
3 further configured to cause the processor to:
4 indicate the change to the configuration of the subsystem when a condition is
5 satisfied.

1 78. The communications device of claim 76, wherein the computer code
2 configured to cause the processor to communicate broadcast the information is configured to
3 use:
4 a logging module network address, and
5 a logging module communications protocol.

1 79. The communications device of claim 78, wherein the computer code
2 configured to cause the processor to communicate broadcast the information is further
3 configured to cause the processor to:
4 broadcast the change to the configuration of the subsystem to a security monitoring
5 process executing on a security monitor coupled to the communications device
6 via a network.

1 80. The communications device of claim 75, wherein the computer code is further
2 configured to cause the processor to:

3 execute a process in a logging module of the communications device, wherein the
4 logging process performs the detecting the change and the communicating
5 information regarding the change.

1 81. The communications device of claim 80, wherein the computer code
2 configured to cause the processor to execute the process in the logging module of the
3 communications device is further configured to cause the processor to:

4 execute a logging process, wherein
5 the subsystem is a communications interface.

1 82. The communications device of claim 81 wherein the computer code
2 configured to cause the processor to communicate the information regarding the change is
3 further configured to cause the processor to:
4 broadcast the information.

1 83. The communications device of claim 82, wherein the computer code
2 configured to cause the processor to communicate the information regarding the change is
3 further configured to cause the processor to:
4 indicate the change to the configuration of the communications interface when a
5 condition is satisfied.

1 84. The communications device of claim 81, wherein the computer code is further
2 configured to cause the processor to:
3 execute at least one process in the subsystem according to the configuration of the
4 subsystem.

1 85. The communications device of claim 84, wherein the computer code
2 configured to cause the processor to execute the at least one process in the subsystem
3 according to the configuration of the subsystem is further configured to cause the processor
4 to:
5 execute a communications process.

1 86. The communications device of claim 85, wherein the computer code
2 configured to cause the processor to execute the logging process is further configured to cause
3 the processor to:
4 broadcast through the communications interface using a logging module network
5 address and a logging module communications protocol.

1 87. A computer program product comprising:
2 a first set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to detect a
3 change in a configuration of a subsystem of a communications device;
4 a second set of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to
5 communicate information regarding the change; and
6 computer readable media, wherein the computer program product is encoded in the
7 computer readable media.

1 88. The computer program product of claim 87, further comprising:
2 a third set of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to determine
3 the configuration;

1 89. The computer program product of claim 88, wherein the second set of
2 instructions comprises:
3 a first subset of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to
4 broadcast the information.

1 90. The computer program product of claim 89, wherein the second set of
2 instructions comprises:
3 a second subset of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to
4 indicate the change to the configuration of the subsystem when a condition is
5 satisfied.

1 91. The computer program product of claim 89, wherein the second set of
2 instructions use:
3 a logging module network address, and
4 a logging module communications protocol.

1 92. The computer program product of claim 91, wherein the second set of
2 instructions comprises:
3 a third subset of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to
4 broadcast the change to the configuration of the subsystem to a security
5 monitoring process executing on a security monitor coupled to the
6 communications device via a network.

1 93. The computer program product of claim 91, further comprising:
2 a fourth set of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to execute
3 a process in a logging module of the communications device, wherein the
4 logging process performs the detecting the change and the communicating
5 information regarding the change.

1 94. The computer program product of claim 93, wherein the fourth set of
2 instructions comprises:
3 a first subset of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to
4 execute a logging process, wherein
5 the subsystem is a communications interface.

1 95. The computer program product of claim 94, wherein the second set of
2 instructions comprises:
3 a first subset of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to
4 broadcast the information.

1 96. The computer program product of claim 95, wherein the second set of
2 instructions comprises:
3 a second subset of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to
4 indicate the change to the configuration of the subsystem when a condition is
5 satisfied.

1 97. The computer program product of claim 94, further comprising:
2 a fifth set of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to execute at
3 least one process in the subsystem according to the configuration of the
4 subsystem.

1 98. The computer program product of claim 97, wherein the fifth set of
2 instructions comprises:
3 a first subset of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to
4 execute a communications process.

1 99. The computer program product of claim 98, wherein the first subset of the
2 fourth set of instructions comprises:
3 a first sub-subset of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to
4 broadcast through the communications interface using a logging module
5 network address and a logging module communications protocol.

1 100. An apparatus comprising:
2 means for detecting a change in a configuration of a subsystem of a communications
3 device; and
4 means for communicating information regarding the change.

1 101. The apparatus of claim 100, further comprising:
2 means for determining the configuration.

1 102. The apparatus of claim 101, wherein the means for communicating comprises:
2 means for broadcasting the information.

1 103. The apparatus of claim 102, wherein the means for communicating comprises:
2 means for indicating the change to the configuration of the subsystem when a
3 condition is satisfied.

1 104. The apparatus of claim 102, wherein the means for broadcasting is configured
2 to use:
3 a logging module network address, and
4 a logging module communications protocol.

1 105. The apparatus of claim 104, wherein the means for broadcasting comprises:
2 means for broadcasting the change to the configuration of the subsystem to a security
3 monitoring process executing on a security monitor coupled to the
4 communications device via a network.

1 106. The apparatus of claim 101, further comprising:
2 means for executing a logging process in a logging module of the communications
3 device, wherein the logging process performs the detecting the change and the
4 communicating information regarding the change.

1 107. The apparatus of claim 106, wherein
2 the subsystem is a communications interface, and
3 the means for executing the process in the logging module comprises
4 means for executing a logging process.

1 108. The apparatus of claim 107, wherein the means for communicating comprises:
2 means for broadcasting the information.

1 109. The apparatus of claim 108, wherein the means for communicating comprises:
2 means for indicating the change to the configuration of the communications interface
3 when a condition is satisfied.

1 110. The apparatus of claim 107, further comprising:
2 means for executing at least one process in the subsystem according to the
3 configuration of the subsystem.

1 111. The apparatus of claim 110, wherein the means for executing the at least one
2 process in the communications interface comprises:
3 means for executing a communications process.

1 112. The apparatus of claim 111, wherein the means for executing the logging
2 process further comprises:
3 means for broadcasting through the communications interface using a logging module
4 network address and a logging module communications protocol.